

Please amend Claim 8 as follows:

8. (Amended) A method according to claim 6 wherein said scoring function is selected from the group consisting of a van der Waals potential scoring function, a hydrogen bond potential scoring function, an atomic salvation scoring function, an electrostatic scoring function and a secondary structure propensity scoring function.

Please add the following new claims:

--19. A method according to claim 1, further comprising computationally analyzing said variant protein for maintenance of native fold and stability.--

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 17 are pending. Claim 18 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer as it is directed to a non-elected invention. Claim 8 has been amended to correct a typographical error. Instead of "Van der Waals," Claim 8 now recites "van der Waals." This correction is merely typographical in nature, and therefore, is not new matter. See Specification at page 23, line 30. Support for newly added claim 19 is found in the specification at page 7, lines 10-12. An Appendix of Pending Claims is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

Applicants submit that inventorship has not been changed by the cancellation of Claim 18.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by this Amendment.

The attached page is captioned **"Version with Markings to Show Changes Made"**.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (415) 781-1989 if any issues may be resolved in that manner.

Respectfully submitted,

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